

NOTES – RAW DATA

Guiding Question #3 – Are there special considerations for the workforce or higher education in your region of the state?

Responses:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absolute focus on the incompetent worker to be able to augment their education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement gap
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult functional literacy is a huge problem and should be addressed; they could master jobs but must be literate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerospace, green Colorado – require specific skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because we import labor – all regions in the state and feeder states need to provide a good education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booming health sciences, tourism, bioscience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career counseling – more possibilities; more need for decision-making [skills?]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career in tech education is often looked down upon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class bias; parents don't want their kids to go to school with minorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration between colleges and high school in rural Colorado is limited
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community colleges are more helpful in navigating the system; four-year universities need to do more of this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of education – especially to meet needs of a diverse population
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural proficiency – moving away from stereotypes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define region as Denver Metro
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denver bond programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denver needs a lot more support for first generation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denver needs better support systems in four-year universities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabilities – accommodations and support – state-wide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic stimulus for education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment opportunities – internships, etc., and education opportunities (community colleges, etc.); 2+2 program and 5-year high school diploma
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ever-changing demographic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience wide variety of job options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore programs relevant to the workforce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Far more distractions with which schools cannot compete – entertainment, technology, driving, etc.

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• Focused training
• Generational poverty – breaking the cycle
• Geographic and cultural limitations should be broken
• Global economy – need larger definition because of this
• Graphing calculator per School of Mines request; business needs basic skills to know what is behind the calculator – basic # (number) sense
• Health science
• Help students be more aware of what jobs are available in various regions of Colorado and what skills are needed for each
• High COL [cost of living] here means some kids must work to help support their households
• High schools should have training in areas that apply to local industry for students who want to stay in their own region and be successful
• Higher concentration of students in poverty and who are second language learners
• High-tech industry savvy
• High-tech leadership – analogous skill set
• High-tech workforce from technical up to PhD / engineers
• How can we aid / educate all ages
• How do we create employees who will be happy doing work that may not be creative
• How do your skills transfer from one job to a better one or another one if you lose your job?
• Immigration – Parents fearful to complete forms
• Immigration status
• Industry clusters – health care, bioscience, construction, energy, manufacturing, arts, criminal justice, IT, aerospace (top 17) . . .
• Know how to teach in diverse classrooms
• Knowledge / understanding of urban diversity
• Lack of equality among the schools across the state or region / districts
• Lack of guidance counselors
• Lack of reciprocal bilingual education
• Language barrier; closing the non-college pursuits
• Large Hispanic population
• Large offender population – services needed to get into jobs
• Large percentage of parents who have not attended college
• Learn to grow up
• Look at KIPP charter schools for inspiration in teaching to minority students (KIPP = knowledge is power)

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More competition in Denver than in rural Colorado
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More resources and options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need both four-year degrees and high school grads = four-year degrees move here but need strong pool at the high school and associates degree (AA) level = all levels need good education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need language skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more racial and ethnic diversity in teaching STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), health careers and other four-year-degree-requiring fields
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more resources to teach students of poverty and more minutes in the school day (extended year also)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need opportunities to shadow within various jobs when you are in high school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online courses are important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for tele-commuting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents don't understand value of science, math; just want their kids to get out
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with P-12, industry, & higher education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with Workforce Development & CTE [career and technical education]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People don't understand diversity – too many definitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People don't value education – higher education gets perceived negatively
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plethora of resources here for students, educationally, vocationally, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poorly funded higher education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population: undocumented students; family stabilization; transience v. strong family structure – cultural piece (paradox of more resilience in immigrant populations and less in Caucasian); low-income, high TANF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive opportunities at all levels so individuals with disabilities can find success
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical application experiences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-apprenticeships / internship program – tech piece before there
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote learning opportunities at regional parks, museums, and other institutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public education – higher education v. proprietary schools (private and occupational schools)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich support of pre-collegiate service providers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills in other languages / cultures (especially Spanish in Colorado) is a growing need
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some areas have limited resources for K-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop dumbing down and accommodating those who refuse to challenge themselves – gaps are huge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted industries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers need skills to address the needs of the increasingly diverse population

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train teachers to enter 21st century classrooms – provide an instructional coach in each school
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation – distance from school and work
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undocumented students
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undocumented students – lack parent support
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Urban v. rural accessibility to education and job opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Western – specific issues – water issues, energy challenges for Colorado and the West
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What skills are needed to be successful in future jobs? For ex: what skills are needed for work in “green” industries?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World language skills are needed